

WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY



You can get tubers of the tuberous rooted begonias in spring and start them in pots, and they will bloom through the summer. I have the one called "The Sunbeam" now, with flowers as large as a hollyhock. You can grow a fuchsia in summer and have a fine bloom, but it will be useless in winter, and in winter, there is nothing better than geraniums and the primula I have mentioned. You can get these of various colors, from white to magenta. A neat plan can be used in the center of the window for decorative effect. In winter you can bloom some bulbs, and a plant of *Imantophyllum miniatum* has good foliage and blooms its orange-colored lily-like flowers finely in winter, and stands for years in one pot. Get a catalogue of some of the leading florists and study what they say in regard to house plants. A long window box placed outside the window in summer and planted with a variety of plants is always interesting.

Percentage in Fertilizers.
It is rather amusing to note that the word per cent or percentage seems to be a puzzle to otherwise very intelligent farmers. One asks me, "How many pounds of potash is there in a ton of kainit of 12 per cent, or in a ton of muriate of potash of 50 per cent? You simply fail to understand that per cent is merely a ratio. The 50 per cent of the Latin percentage, or 100, Twelve per cent, then, in a ton of kainit means that there are twelve pounds of potash each 100 pounds of 50 per cent potash in the ton. The muriate of potash is 50 pounds in each 100, or 1,000 pounds in the ton. Hence to get potash, it is cheaper to buy the muriate, because you have to freight but one-fourth as much as if you bought kainit to get potash.

It is easy, then, to figure the percentages in a fertilizer mixture if you know the percentages in the materials used. For instance, if you want a fertilizer to contain 5 per cent of phosphoric acid in a ton by using the 16 per cent acid phosphate. Each 100 pounds of the acid phosphate has sixteen pounds of phosphoric acid, and 100 per cent of a 2,000-pound ton will be 160 pounds. Then we see at once that 1,000 pounds of the 16 per cent goods will give us the 5 per cent wanted. And so it is with all the other materials used in mixing fertilizers. You simply need to know the percentage of nitrogen or potash or phosphoric acid in the article used, and you can make up any formula you may wish.

Ammonia and Nitrogen.
"Writers in the papers write about nitrogen, but I have never seen nitrogen marked on a sack of fertilizer. Ammonia is the name of the element. The fertilizer manufacturers use the name ammonia, because it makes the figures look larger than they are. They put the actual percentage of nitrogen. Ammonia is a hydride of nitrogen, and 5 per cent ammonia marked on it will, therefore, have about 1.5 per cent of nitrogen, and it is nitrogen we want, rather than ammonia. Plants do not use ammonia at all until it has passed through the nitrification process in the soil, through the action of the soil bacteria, and has been changed to a nitrate. Then plants can use it, and not before. Hence it is easy to see how the nitrate of soda applied to crops stimulates them at once, for it is very soluble and presents the nitrogen in the very form in which plants use it, and the only form in which they use it. Nitrogen. What the law should compel is that the fertilizer manufacturers shall put on the sacks simply the actual percentage of nitrogen, and of phosphoric acid and potash, and not let the "equation" this, that or the other thing, which is not in the sack at all, and which tends to confuse the farmer.

Dissolved Bone and Dissolved Rock.
"How much better is the phosphate made from dissolved bone than that made from dissolving the phosphate rock? There is not a particle of difference between the phosphoric acid from bone and that from rock. They are one and the same thing. Manufacturers imagine that farmers think the phosphate from bones is better than that from rock, and they tell their goods home phosphorus, when there has not been a particle of bone used in the making. All that interests the farmer is the actual amount of available phosphoric acid in the article, and it does not make a particle of difference whether it came from bone or rock.

Bushes and Ditch Banks.
"How shall I clear my ditch banks of brush? Other bushes can be killed by cutting in the full moon in August, but the elder keeps on." The full moon in August or any other time has nothing to do with the killing of bushes. The best way to keep ditch banks clean is not to have any ditch banks. If you are obliged to have open ditches, let the horse scoop at work and slope the banks back till they have a regular slope to the bottom of the ditch, and then you can cultivate right down to the drain, and the ditch will do more drainage for having the bank scooped back, and the center of the drain can be kept open with a plow. It is simply shaping the land into broad lands, draining each way to the drain. Then you will not have ditch banks to worry you, but good crops right to the drain. But to kill elder or any other bushes there is no special time to cut them after letting them grow, for no matter when the cutting is done, if it is only done once a year, the bushes will always be there. The only way to kill them is not to allow them to make green tops above ground. Keep them cut down, full moon or dark, August or April, and the roots will soon die, but if you allow them to grow for some months, the one cutting will not kill anything. But, as I have said, the best thing is to have no ditch banks.

Inoculated Soy Beans.
"I am planting between the hills of corn and in the same row, soy beans treated with Farmogerm. Will this take the place of an application of nitrate of soda later, or any part of it on this corn crop? I generally apply 100 pounds of nitrate of soda to corn when in the ear." Farmogerm is a laboratory culture of the bacteria that live on the roots of the leguminous plants and enable them to get nitrogen from the air. You seem to think that it directly adds nitrogen like the nitrate does. The planting of the beans and their getting nitrogen will to some extent help the corn, and an application of nitrate of soda will interfere with this, for if the beans can get readily available nitrogen in the soil, they will not get as much from the air. Then, too, I think that you are paying a heavy price for all additional corn to children cry for Fletcher's Castoria.

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when the corn is in the ear. At present price for nitrate of soda, the 100 pounds will cost over \$3 an acre, and I very much doubt that it will increase the corn crop \$3 worth. In all the experience I have made through many years, I have never found that it is profitable to buy nitrogen for the corn crop, when one can get all that is needed in a crop of crimson clover turned down for the corn. It will generally pay to use some phosphoric acid on corn, but it does not pay to depend on complete fertilizer mixtures to make corn. It costs too much. A proper rotation of crops and the growing of legume winter cover and the making of manure for the corn will enable the farmer to make corn cheaper.

This has been done even down in Alabama. M. C. Henderson Davis went from Kentucky to Alabama and has brought up through proper rotation an old cotton farm till he makes big crops of corn on clover, and says that while he gets there \$1 to \$1.10 a bushel for corn, the actual cost of the corn is 11 cents a bushel. No farmer who neglects the winter cover and depends on commercial fertilizers and nitrate of soda, can make corn at anything like so low a cost. But Mr. Davis keeps stock—blooded stock—and raises mules that he says cost him \$50 to raise to three years, and the last batch of fifty mules he sold in Atlanta brought \$150 for the poorest one in the lot. He makes manure, and that is the main secret of the improvement of his land. But he has no barnyard, and he does not use a shovel of manure around his barn. It goes out to the field and is spread as fast as it is being hauled. He says that he is making corn in a hurry to get it to the field and is spreading it as fast as it is being hauled.

Second Crop Red Clover.
From Appomattox County. "I have a field from which I have cut a fine crop of red clover. I intend to run this in clover another summer and cut the first growth for hay, and turn the second growth in the fall for tobacco in 1915. Would it be advisable to cut the second growth this season? It promises to make a heavier growth than the first cutting. I also have a field in corn that is well set in Bermuda grass, and I have decided to make a permanent pasture of this. Would you advise sowing Burr clover at last cutting of the corn? I have no knowledge of the clover being in this section." It will probably be best to mow this second crop if you intend to keep the clover for another year. The old dead clover would be in the way of the new growth. If you cut the clover, it will not make as good hay as the first cutting, and perhaps it will be best to let it mature, and cut and cure it for seed. Even if there is no clover killing machine in your section, you can fall cut the clover and sow it in the rough if you use about a bushel of the seed in the chaff and straw. Then it will pay, I think, to give the clover a second cutting, and cut a good dressing of acid phosphate. This will pay in the next spring crop. I am sure. Burr clover, *Medicago dentata*, is a sort of annual clover. It sprouts in the warm, sandy soils of the Southern Coast region than to the hills of Appomattox, and I would not advise its use. The best plan will be to sow crimson clover, and cut the corn, or after the corn is cut, and it will give you good pasture before the Bermuda grass. Then in spring get some seed of lespedeza or Japan clover and scatter over the field, and it will grow, and in the fall will result in a good, and add to the pasture finely.

Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower and Eggplants.
From Dinwiddie County. "Kindly tell me, through your columns, in The Times-Dispatch, something about the culture of Brussels sprouts, cauliflower and eggplants." Brussels sprouts are a member of the cabbage family, which makes a host of little heads about the size of walnuts all along the stem below the tuft of leaves at the top. The seed can be sown here from middle of June to first of July, and later transplanted like in the case of cabbage, and sown in the same way. They will mature the little heads in November. Like all the cabbage family, they are cross feeders, and the soil must be heavily manured, or the plants set out with an early crop that has had heavy manuring. We can hardly make the fall cauliflower to any extent in this climate, as it is hard to carry the plants through the summer. This can be done in the North, and the crops made in the fall. But here about the only crop of cauliflower we can make is the early spring crop. This can be sown from seed sown the middle of September and transplanted singly in a frame and protected during the winter with cloth, and then transplanted in March into very strong soil for heading. They must be early and head by the middle of May, and the weather must get so hot that they will not head at all.

I have described my method of getting early cauliflowers, and any one with plenty of glass sashes on frames can do this. I set six plants under each sash, the sashes being 4x6 feet, and the frame six feet wide. The space between them is filled in with a close heading lettuce like the Tennis Ball, and these are cut out during the winter. By the first of March the cauliflower plants will be getting up to the glass, and they are then gradually hardened to the air and the sashes removed to other frames to be used in protecting the tomato plants. The cauliflower plants in this way will head at Petersburg in April.

Eggplants. Are grown by sowing the seed early in March in a hotbed or greenhouse, and transplanting to frames later to get strong and then setting them in rows three feet apart, each way after the soil has gotten well warmed. The same fight with the potato bugs that we have with potatoes must be carried out with the eggplants, for they will destroy them as fast as they will potatoes. The best variety is the Black Beauty. You can get potted plants from any of the seed houses in the cities.

Diseased Irls.
A lady correspondent writes: "I am sending you a specimen leaf from my white Irls. The plants are six years old, and at first gave a great many flowers. But for the past two years they have not flourished, and look wasted. Can you suggest a remedy?" The leaf sent is affected by a fungus growth, *Circosporium*. Get some formalin from a drug store, the 40 per cent solution of formaldehyde. Put a tablespoonful in two gallons of water and spray the plants with this. This will not restore the blasted leaves, but the fresh leaves will come out healthy. Spray several times during the summer.

Oats for Name.
From Greensville County. "I am sending you a sample of a head of oats that came up among red top grass sown last fall. They make a good name and value." The specimen sent is a very good sample of the black spring oats. It lived last winter, but I rather suspect that in an ordinarily hard winter you will find any of these Northern spring oats will winter-kill.

Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria.

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RULE OF ANARCHY SPREADS TERROR IN JOHANNESBURG

(Continued From First Page.)

Except at the time of the Jameson raid in 1896 and the outbreak of the war in 1899, this city has not experienced such a day of terrorism as Saturday. The mobs in the business section caused less fear than desperadoes who were threatening to dynamite the homes of the wealthy.

All places of business were closed and guarded by troops, while bands of citizens armed with rifles patrolled the residential quarters. The strikers first made a raid on the Rand Club, whose members are mine owners. Three times the dragons entered the club, which quickly reformed. The troops then fired two volleys directly into the strikers' ranks and the strikers fled, leaving behind them many killed and wounded. After about three hours' fighting delegates from the strike committee marched through the streets under a white flag ordering the men to return to their homes.

The Presbyterian conference opened in the big auditorium, Dr. J. Gray McAllister, of Louisville, Ky., delivering the address of welcome. The evening services were led by Dr. R. C. Anderson, president of the association.

The morning services at Ridge Crest were conducted by Dr. M. Ashley Jones, pastor of the First Baptist Church, of Augusta, Ga. All the houses and cottages at both assembly grounds are filled with delegates.

Recall Is Demanded.
Pretorius, Transvaal. The recall of the Governor-General of the Union of South Africa, Viscount Gladstone, because he employed troops to suppress the strike, is demanded by the Polarized Trade unions in resolutions adopted at a meeting to-day.

Virginia Troops Are Now in Camp.

Norfolk, Va., July 6.—Fifteen hundred infantry of the three regiments composing the Virginia Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General C. Vaughan, arrived throughout to-day at Camp Harvey M. Dickson, Virginia Beach, to spend a week in the annual manoeuvres.

The first detachment, composed of the Fourth Regiment, arrived at 10 o'clock this morning. The First Regiment, four companies from Richmond and eight from the middle section of Virginia, arrived late in the afternoon and the second from the western part of Virginia, late to-night. Tomorrow Governor A. O. Eberhart, of Minnesota, his staff and party will visit the camp. The troops will pass in review before the Minnesota executive, who will be the guest of General Vaughan and staff at lunch.

Senator Won't Assent to Plan to Nominating Him for President.
Topeka, Kan., July 6.—A letter to his friend, James A. Troutman, of this city, Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho, who has been urged to move to rehabilitate the Republican party, declines Mr. Troutman's suggestion that he accept of a proposed movement to nominate him for President on the Republican ticket in 1916. Mr. Borah's reply indicates that he will not be a candidate.

Senator Borah has a strong following in Kansas, and Mr. Troutman wrote to him that he and other friends in the State would be glad to organize a systematic movement with the object of placing his name at the head of the Republican ticket in the next national campaign.

Mr. Borah's response was as follows: "My dear Troutman:—Reply to your kind letter of the 25th, permit me to thank you sincerely. I appreciate what you say and what you have said. As you have been generous enough to great the subject with sincerity, I must answer with equal sincerity. I am not a candidate for that high office. I haven't my heart set on it, and I am not being published abroad, and I haven't the slightest intention of putting it out of its hiding place. I am not a candidate, and I cannot be misled by the generous words of friends as to the real situation or persuasion of the people. There is no possibility, much less a probability, of such a thing happening, and I promise you as my personal friend that I do not propose for a moment to divert my mind from the things in which I am interested and the work I am now in a position to do or help do into a serious consideration of the matter."

And Big Time at Reception.
Some electric lights at the Gattysburg reunion are told by W. T. Tyree and W. A. Turpin, members of R. E. Lee Camp. Before a gathering of 10,000 men Mr. Tyree, dressed in his old uniform, and his friend, Mr. Turpin, shook hands with one of the "Yankees" similarly clad, while the crowd loudly cheered. A Pennsylvanian with whom Mr. Tyree had become acquainted said to him before leaving, "Johnny, come, let's have our picture taken with hands clasped. I want to keep it as a final remembrance that the war is forever over."

TIDE OF BATTLE GOING AGAINST ARMS OF SERBIA

(Continued From First Page.)

River Bregalnitz. Another semi-official communication says last week's battles cost the Serbians 15,000 killed and wounded and the Bulgarians 20,000. According to the latest advices, the Serbians have recaptured Krivolak, where a desperate battle has been raging three days.

Greeks Occupy Dolina.
Athens, July 6.—The Bulgarian minister has left Saloniki. The Greeks have occupied Dolina, and the right wing has taken possession of Orlikovo, on the River Strymon. Advices from headquarters say that news is continually arriving of fresh victories.

Ministers Re-called.
Sofia, July 6.—The Bulgarian ministers at Belgrade at Cetline have been recalled, and the Bulgarian interests have been confided to Russia. The Sobranje has been convoked for Tuesday.

Legation Notified of War.
Washington, July 6.—The Greek legation here was informed by its government to-day that, without formal declaration, Greece, Serbia and Montenegro have accepted war with Bulgaria; that the Greek Secretary of State had notified the Bulgarian minister at Athens he considered the latter's mission at an end, and that the Greek minister at Sofia had been instructed to return home.

New Alliance Proposed.
St. Petersburg, July 6.—The Reich assembly that fourparties are passing between Greece, Serbia, Montenegro and Rumania with the object of forming a new quadruple alliance. Rumors are persistent that Turkey threatens war unless Bulgaria evacuates Rosasto and the coast of Harmor.

ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCES ON

Asheville, N. C., July 6.—Hundreds of Presbyterians and Baptists gathered at Montreat and Ridge Crest assembly grounds, near Black Mountain, to-day for the annual summer conferences of the Southern Presbyterian and Southern Baptist denominations. The Presbyterians are at Montreat and the Baptists at Ridge Crest.

The Presbyterian conference opened in the big auditorium, Dr. J. Gray McAllister, of Louisville, Ky., delivering the address of welcome. The evening services were led by Dr. R. C. Anderson, president of the association.

The morning services at Ridge Crest were conducted by Dr. M. Ashley Jones, pastor of the First Baptist Church, of Augusta, Ga. All the houses and cottages at both assembly grounds are filled with delegates.

Special to The Times-Dispatch.
Orange, Va., July 6.—W. Byrd Willis, accompanied by his niece, Miss Lucy Richardson, met with an accident this morning while crossing the tracks south of Orange. He was struck by a Southern passenger train, No. 5, suddenly ran upon them, striking the car, and the car was thrown overboard. Mr. Willis violently to the ground. He was placed in the baggage car and a train warden took him to the University Hospital at Charlottesville on train No. 1. Latest reports are that he is doing nicely. His niece, jumped from the buggy, escaping with a sprained ankle. The horse was injured.

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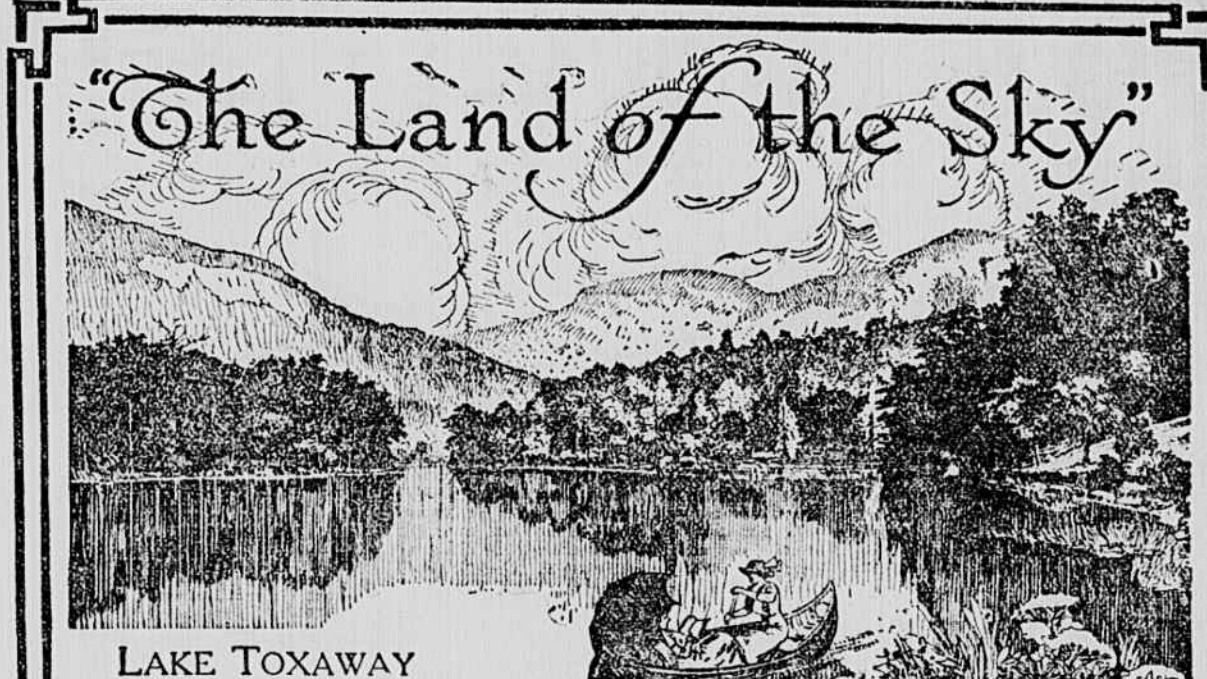
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AMBASSADOR PAGE BITTERLY ATTACKED

Magazine Criticizes His Attitude Toward Southerners in Writings.

New York, July 6.—Aroused over statements Walter H. Page, ambassador to the court of St. James, made in his book, "The Southerners," in which he declared he abused and derided Southerners through a false portrayal of them, the editors of Neale's Magazine, in their July issue, question Mr. Page's ability to represent the American people. The sharp criticism of the Southerners through a false portrayal of them, the editors of Neale's Magazine, in their July issue, question Mr. Page's ability to represent the American people. The sharp criticism of the Southerners through a false portrayal of them, the editors of Neale's Magazine, in their July issue, question Mr. Page's ability to represent the American people.

The novel, "The Southerners," first appeared as a serial in the Atlantic Monthly, and was written by Mr. Page under the pseudonym of "Nicholas Worth." Besides the review of the book there is editorial comment in Neale's Magazine questioning Mr. Page's Americanism, one paragraph of which reads:

"But Ambassador Page seems to hold the American section in which he was born and reared—a section that comprises about one-fourth the area and nearly one-fourth of the population of the United States—to be un-American because sectional. We are all Americans—unless Mr. Page be an exception—and wretched Americans because of our affection for the ward, borough, city, county and State in which we live."

Some of the criticisms of Mr. Page in the review of his book follow: "We found that Nicholas Worth, the professed author of the book, was a man whose environment in the South had evidently been among persons who were not recognized in that section as typical—in fact, who had no social recognition whatever, but who lived to themselves and were looked down upon by whites and blacks alike. "There are scenes in this book that are so coarse that we will not bring them into this review. It is sufficient to say that they were used to vilify the white race."

"Nicholas Worth" and his kind never stood socially high in the South; he was no gentleman; his associates were not gentlemen; his antecedents had a defective sense of the difference that exists between right and wrong. "Nicholas Worth" holds Confederate veterans in utter contempt, and throughout his book Confederates are roundly abused, and other Southern patriotic bodies, such as the Daughters of the Confederacy, Nicholas Worth denies that there was any intellectual among the women of the South. He frequently speaks of the lack of culture of all the people among whom he was reared."

"Nicholas Worth, the Southerner, is ashamed of being a Southerner. He holds that there is no negro social problem. He does not find objection to the marriage of a mulatto girl to a white man. He meets the negro woman on the terms of equality. "He says that he found his 'intellectual emancipation' at Harvard. He does not seem to have been in any sort of home in the South—unless in the home of some negro, or should we say that he seemed quite 'at home' when among negroes?"

"Throughout the book Nicholas Worth continually dwells on his intellectual superiority to the people of the section where he was born. He praises his own scholarship as if amazed that a skull so small as his had the capacity for storing away so much erudition. As an evidence of his extraordinary knowledge, he says: 'Yet not a man or woman who alluded to "scholarly diversion" knew even the Greek alphabet, nor (sic) had any desire to learn it.'"

"The book now becomes important because of Mr. Page's position as the ambassador of all the American people to Great Britain. In London the book is being hailed as a true expression of the South, for Mr. Page was born in the South, and they naturally suppose that a Southern President appointing a man of Southern birth has appointed a representative Southerner."

Coroner's Inquest To-Day.

The coroner's inquest into the death of Claude Skinner, colored, who was fatally shot Saturday night in a scuffle with Daisy Holmes, colored, will be held this morning at 10 o'clock in the City Hall. The woman admits having fired the shot which ended Skinner's career, but pleads self-defense. She will be given a preliminary hearing in Police Court in the charge of murder, and will either be dismissed or sent to the grand jury for indictment.

Virginia Railway and Power Company SEVENTH AND FRANKLIN STS.